Amendments to the Claims:

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A method for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information identifying one or more locations of one or more pauses occurring in audio information included in the digitized audio, the method comprising steps of:

receiving the digitized audio;

providing reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio;

detecting a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio;

~~pausing provision of~~ in response to detecting the condition, inserting one or more additional pauses into the reconstructed audio ~~based on~~ corresponding to the locations identified by the pause information ~~and in response to detecting the condition~~.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of detecting further comprises detecting impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of detecting further comprises receiving a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising steps of: determining that the condition is no longer valid; and continuing provision of the reconstructed audio.

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of ~~pausing~~ selectively inserting further comprises pausing the reconstructed audio for a predetermined period of time, the method further comprising a step of:

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio upon expiry of the predetermined period of time.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the pause information comprises at least one pause type, and length of the predetermined period of time is based on the at least one pause type.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising a step of:

storing a predetermined amount of the digitized audio in a buffer prior to the step of providing the reconstructed audio,

wherein the reconstructed audio is based on the digitized audio stored in the buffer,

and wherein the step of ~~pausing~~ selectively inserting further comprises pausing the reconstructed audio for a period of time based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, ~~wherein the pause information comprises at least one pause location within the digitized audio, and~~ wherein the step of ~~pausing~~ selectively inserting further comprises:

identifying a pause location in the digitized audio ~~of the at least one pause location~~;

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio up to the pause location; and

pausing provision of the reconstructed audio once the pause location has been reached.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25 ~~32~~, wherein the pause information comprises at least one pause type corresponding to the ~~at least one pause~~ locations~~,~~ ~~wherein the step of identifying further comprises identifying the pause location based on a pause type corresponding to the pause location~~.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of ~~pausing~~ selectively inserting further comprises pausing for a period of time based on the pause

type.

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the at least one pause type comprises any of a group consisting of a word pause, a phrase pause, a sentence pause, a paragraph pause, a heading pause, a topic pause, a speaker pause, ~~and~~an end pause and any suitable combination of the foregoing.

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the pause information comprises silence description packets.

37. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising a step of: providing filler audio while pausing the reconstructed audio.

38. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of claim 25.

39-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently amended) An apparatus for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information identifying one or more locations of one or more pauses occurring in audio information included in the digitized audio, the apparatus comprising:

a controller;

a receiver, coupled to the controller, that receives the digitized audio and the pause information and that stores the digitized audio in an audio buffer;

an audio reconstructor, coupled to the controller and the audio buffer, that provides reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio stored in the audio buffer,

wherein the controller detects a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio and, in response to the condition, instructs the audio reconstructor to additionally pause the reconstructed audio at one or more instants

corresponding to the locations identified by ~~based on~~ the pause information.

58. (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the condition detected by the controller is an impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

59. (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising:

a user interface coupled to the controller,

wherein the condition detected by the controller is a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio received via the user interface.

60. (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause for a predetermined period of time.

61. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the pause information comprises at least one pause type, and length of the predetermined period of time is based on the at least one pause type.

62. (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause for a period of time that is based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

63. (Canceled)

64. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the pause information comprises at least one pause type corresponding to the ~~at least one pause~~ locations, and wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause based on the at least one pause type ~~corresponding to the at least one pause location~~.

65. (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising:

an audio fill generator, coupled to the controller and the audio reconstructor,

wherein the controller instructs the audio fill generator to provide filler audio to the audio reconstructor while pausing the reconstructed audio.

66. (Original) A client in a client-server communication system comprising the apparatus of claim 57.

67. (Original) The client of claim 66, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

68. (Currently amended) A system for marking pauses in digitized audio comprising:

a voice activity detector, that takes the digitized audio as input and identifies at least one period of silence longer than a predetermined length within the digitized audio;

an encoder that provides the digitized audio as output, and that provides silence description information as output when the voice activity detector identifies the at least one period of silence;

a transmitter, coupled to the encoder, that transmits the digitized audio and the silence description information;

a receiver, in communication with the transmitter that receives the digitized audio and the silence description information from the transmitter;

an audio reconstructor, coupled to the receiver, that provides reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio; and

a controller, coupled to the receiver, that at least temporarily discontinues provision of the reconstructed audio and instructs the audio reconstructor to additionally pause the reconstructed audio based on the presence of the silence description information.

69. (New) A method for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information including at least one pause type, the method comprising steps of:

receiving the digitized audio;

providing reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio;

detecting a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio;

pausing provision of the reconstructed audio for a predetermined period of time in response to detecting the condition, the length of the predetermined period of time being based on the at least one pause type included in the pause information; and

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio upon expiry of the predetermined period of time.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the step of detecting further comprises detecting impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

71. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the step of detecting further comprises receiving a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio.

72. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising steps of: determining that the condition is no longer valid; and continuing provision of the reconstructed audio.

73. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising a step of:

storing a predetermined amount of the digitized audio in a buffer prior to the step of providing the reconstructed audio,

wherein the reconstructed audio is based on the digitized audio stored in the buffer,

and wherein the step of pausing further comprises pausing for a period of time based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

74. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the at least one pause type comprises any of a group consisting of a word pause, a phrase pause, a sentence pause, a paragraph pause, a heading pause, a topic pause, a speaker pause, an end pause and any suitable combination of the foregoing.

75. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the pause information comprises silence description packets.

76. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising a step of: providing filler audio while pausing the reconstructed audio.

77. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of claim 69.

78. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the pause information further comprises at least one pause location within the digitized audio, and wherein the step of pausing further comprises:

identifying a pause location of the at least one pause location;

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio up to the pause location; and

pausing provision of the reconstructed audio once the pause location has been reached.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the at least one pause type corresponds to the at least one pause location, wherein the step of identifying further comprises identifying the pause location based on the at least one pause type corresponding to the pause location.

80. (New) A method for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information including at least one pause type corresponding to at least one pause location within the digitized audio, the method comprising steps of:

receiving the digitized audio;

providing reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio;

detecting a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio;

identifying a pause location based on the at least one pause type;

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio up to the pause location; and

in response to detecting the condition, pausing, at least temporarily, provision of the reconstructed audio once the pause location has been reached.

81. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the step of detecting further comprises detecting impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

82. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the step of detecting further comprises receiving a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio.

83. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising steps of: determining that the condition is no longer valid; and continuing provision of the reconstructed audio.

84. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the step of pausing further comprises pausing for a predetermined period of time, the method further comprising a step of:

continuing provision of the reconstructed audio upon expiry of the predetermined period of time.

85. (New) The method of claim 84, wherein the length of the predetermined period of time is based on the at least one pause type.

86. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising a step of:

storing a predetermined amount of the digitized audio in a buffer prior to the step of providing the reconstructed audio,

wherein the reconstructed audio is based on the digitized audio stored in the buffer,

and wherein the step of pausing further comprises pausing for a period of time based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

87. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the step of pausing further comprises pausing for a period of time based on the at least one pause type.

88. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the at least one pause type comprises any of a group consisting of a word pause, a phrase pause, a sentence pause, a paragraph pause, a heading pause, a topic pause, a speaker pause, an end pause and any suitable combination of the foregoing.

89. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the pause information comprises silence description packets.

90. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising a step of: providing filler audio while pausing the reconstructed audio.

91. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of claim 80.

92. (New) An apparatus for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information including at least one pause type, the apparatus comprising:

a controller;

a receiver, coupled to the controller, that receives the digitized audio and the pause information and that stores the digitized audio in an audio buffer;

an audio reconstructor, coupled to the controller and the audio buffer, that provides reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio stored in the audio buffer,

wherein the controller detects a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio and, in response to the condition, instructs the audio reconstructor to pause the reconstructed audio for a predetermined period of time, the length of the predetermined period of time being based on the at least one pause type included in the pause information

93. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the condition detected by the controller is an impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

94. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:

a user interface coupled to the controller,

wherein the condition detected by the controller is a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio received via the user interface.

95. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause for a period of time that is based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

96. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the pause information further comprises at least one pause location, and wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause based on the at least one pause location.

97. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the at least one pause type corresponds to at least one pause location.

98. (New) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:

an audio fill generator, coupled to the controller and the audio reconstructor, wherein the controller instructs the audio fill generator to provide filler audio to the audio reconstructor while pausing the reconstructed audio.

99. (New) A client in a client-server communication system comprising the apparatus of claim 92.

100. (New) The client of claim 99, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

101. (New) An apparatus for decoding digitized audio, wherein pause information has been added to the digitized audio, the pause information including at least one pause type corresponding to at least one pause location, the apparatus comprising:

a controller;

a receiver, coupled to the controller, that receives the digitized audio and the pause information and that stores the digitized audio in an audio buffer;

an audio reconstructor, coupled to the controller and the audio buffer, that provides reconstructed audio based on the digitized audio stored in the audio buffer, wherein the controller detects a condition requiring at least temporary discontinuation of the reconstructed audio and, in response to the condition, instructs the audio reconstructor to pause the reconstructed audio based on the at least one pause type corresponding to the at least one pause location.

102. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the condition detected by the controller is an impairment to continued receipt of the digitized audio.

103. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:

a user interface coupled to the controller,

wherein the condition detected by the controller is a request to discontinue the reconstructed audio received via the user interface.

104. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause for a predetermined period of time.

105. (New) The apparatus of claim 104, wherein the length of the predetermined period of time is based on the at least one pause type.

106. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause for a period of time that is based on the amount of digitized audio remaining in the buffer.

107. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the controller instructs the audio reconstructor to pause based on the at least one pause location.

108. (New) The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:

an audio fill generator, coupled to the controller and the audio reconstructor,

wherein the controller instructs the audio fill generator to provide filler audio to the audio reconstructor while pausing the reconstructed audio.

109. (New) A client in a client-server communication system comprising the apparatus of claim 101.

110. (New) The client of claim 109, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.